

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of transferring a data element from a device to a handheld computer, the method comprising:

5 receiving a device-enabled data element at an intelligent docking station enabled co-processor;

performing a driver conversion to convert the device-enabled data element into a bus-enabled data element; and

10 placing the bus-enabled data element on a handheld compatible bus.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving the bus-enabled data element, and converting the bus-enabled data element into a handheld data element.

15 3. The method of claim 1 further comprising detecting a docking condition, and activating a communication driver in response to the docking condition.

20 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the device is a keyboard.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the device is a network interface card.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of receiving receives the device data element at a low-level device driver.

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7. The method of claim 6 further comprising transferring the data element from the low-level device driver to a top-level device driver.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein placing comprises using a communication driver to control the placement of the data element on the bus.

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9. The method of claim 1 further comprising the act of receiving the bus-enabled data element at a handheld device.

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10. The method of claim 9 further comprising transferring the bus-enabled data element to a communication driver capable of converting the bus-enabled data element into a handheld-enabled data element.

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11. The method of claim 10 further comprising sending the handheld enabled data element to an operating system within the handheld.

12. A method of transferring a data element from a handheld computer to a device, the method comprising:

converting a handheld-enabled data element into a bus-enabled data element;
placing the bus-enabled data element on a handheld compatible bus;

5 receiving the bus-enabled data element at an intelligent docking station enabled co-processor; and

performing a driver conversion to convert the bus-enabled data element into a device-enabled data element.

10 13. The method of claim 12 further comprising placing the device-enabled data element on an output.

14. The method of claim 12 wherein the device is a monitor.

15 15. The method of claim 12 further comprising employing a top-level device driver to send the device enabled data element to the device.

16. The method of claim 12 wherein the act of converting uses a communication driver located in the handheld computer.

17. A method of transforming a data packet from a handheld computer packet type to a device packet type, the method comprising:

detecting an input packet having a packet identifier (ID), the input packet being a packet that is received by an intelligent docking station from a handheld device;

retrieving the packet ID from the input packet; and

dispatching the input packet to a device driver enabled based on the packet ID, the device driver capable of converting the input packet from a handheld computer packet type to a device packet type.

18. The method of claim 17 further comprising detecting a connect condition.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein dispatching sends the output packet to a device.

20. The method of claim 17 wherein dispatching employs a co-processor to convert the input packet from a handheld computer packet type to a device packet type.